

City of Tumwater  
555 Israel Road  
Tumwater, WA 98501-6558

May 31, 2006



Attn.: Roger Gellenbeck, AICP

Subject: Proposed Wal-Mart Store

Even I, as a lay person, understand there are hosts of environmental reasons--traffic congestion, air pollution, flooding, run-off from massive parking lot, clear cutting of beautiful mature trees--to deny Wal-Mart permission to build its usual monstrous store.

1

In addition, I am very concerned about the effect on existing small businesses that have served the public for ages. We shop regularly at Mega Foods which is owned and operated by local people. We enjoy shopping there and supporting them. Surely Fred Meyer, Albertsons, Mega Foods, Home Depot and local businesses sufficiently provide most products needed by Tumwater residents.

2

Sadly SHB and SB3636 which would have required employers of 5,000 or more employees to provide health care for them failed. Since Wal-Mart does not provide health care, their employees seek out medical services from Medicaid, paid for by taxpayers. It is plain to see how Wal-Mart can afford to sell goods at lower prices than other merchants. They are not a respectful business.

3

If Tumwater has no recourse to allowing Wal-Mart to build, it would be wise to require them to employ local union construction workers, rather than Wal-Mart bringing in their crews from Arkansas, in which case the wages would end up in Arkansas rather than contributing to local business in Thurston County.

4

Wal-Mart has a store in Hawks Prairie and plans another in Yelm. That should adequately serve those who choose to shop at their stores.

5

I implore the City of Tumwater to deny Wal-Mart approval to build a store in Tumwater.

6

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

*Helen B. Peterson*  
Helen B. Peterson  
6049 Cotton Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98513-5040